TRANSPORT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- New Hampshire experiences an average of ten days per year when the air quality is officially categorized as unhealthy. This is enough to classify portions of the state as nonattainment for ozone (i.e., dirty air regions), prompting certain federally required actions to reduce air pollution from in-state sources.
- During periods of unhealthy air quality for ozone and small particles in New Hampshire, approximately 92 percent to nearly 100 percent of this pollution originates from sources located outside of New Hampshire. These pollutants are transported into the state with the wind over great distances.
- New Hampshire has taken steps to reduce pollution emissions on a local basis to ensure that the problem doesn't get worse for our own citizens or for those living downwind.
- Since the large majority of air pollution in New Hampshire comes from out-of-state sources, emission reductions are necessary in upwind states to bring New Hampshire into compliance with clean air regulations.
- Emissions from large power plants in the Midwest and urban areas to the south of New Hampshire provide the vast majority of the pollution that causes unhealthy air quality, impaired visibility, acidification of lakes and forests, and mercury contamination throughout New Hampshire.
- When acid rain forming pollutants and mercury are released into the air, they are chemically transformed into acidic compounds and toxic mercury and carried many miles before being deposited onto land and into waterbodies. Some forms of mercury are more likely than others to deposit in areas near their source, creating local "hot spots."
- Small particles and ozone have been shown to produce adverse health effects even at levels below the current federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
- Failing to have a healthy environment will ultimately reduce business opportunities – which in turn will reduce jobs, lower income and jeopardize the economic outlook of affected communities.
- Direct health-related costs to New Hampshire from transported air pollution due to out-of-state sources are estimated to exceed $1 billion per year based on health-related cost data obtained from independent studies. Economic impacts beyond direct health-related costs that are not accounted for in this figure include:
    - Increased health claims and health risks for all New Hampshire residents.
    - Loss of worker productivity.
    - Higher electricity costs and operating costs for local power plants due to increased federal requirements for operation in dirty air regions.

    - Higher operating costs for certain businesses in the state due to increased federal requirements for operation in dirty air regions.
    - More expensive fuels (including gasoline) and vehicles due to increased federal requirements for operation in dirty air regions.
- With more vehicles on the road and steady growth in total miles driven both in New Hampshire and nationally, strong federal emission reduction requirements for motor vehicles are essential for meeting clean air goals.
- Effective national multi-pollutant legislation for electric generating units is critical to New Hampshire if the state expects to achieve consistently healthy air quality. Meaningful legislation will also avoid unnecessary and highly expensive pollution control measures required for downwind areas (a requirement under federal law for areas with poor air quality).
- The full benefits of the proposed federal Clear Skies Act will not be realized until 2020 – too late for New Hampshire to reach clean air goals by the required attainment date of 2010 – and will only be a marginal improvement over what the existing Clean Air Act provisions require. Both the proposed congressional Clean Air Planning and Clean Power Acts achieve greater reductions sooner.
- The New Source Review overhaul as proposed by EPA will allow older, dirtier facilities to continue to make major, life-extending improvements without installing pollution control equipment. The result will be continued unhealthy air quality for states like New Hampshire due to air pollution transport and increased requirements for local controls.
- Controlling pollution from power plants is cost-effective, returning over $12 of health-related benefits for every $1 spent on emission controls.